

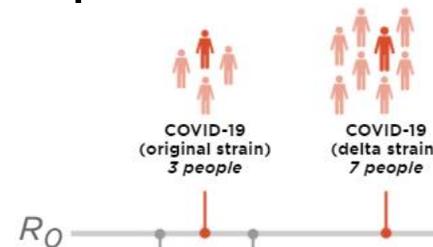


Agenda

- Update on the spread and impact of Delta variant
- Determining level of community spread (DOH and CDC guidance)

Spread of the Delta variant

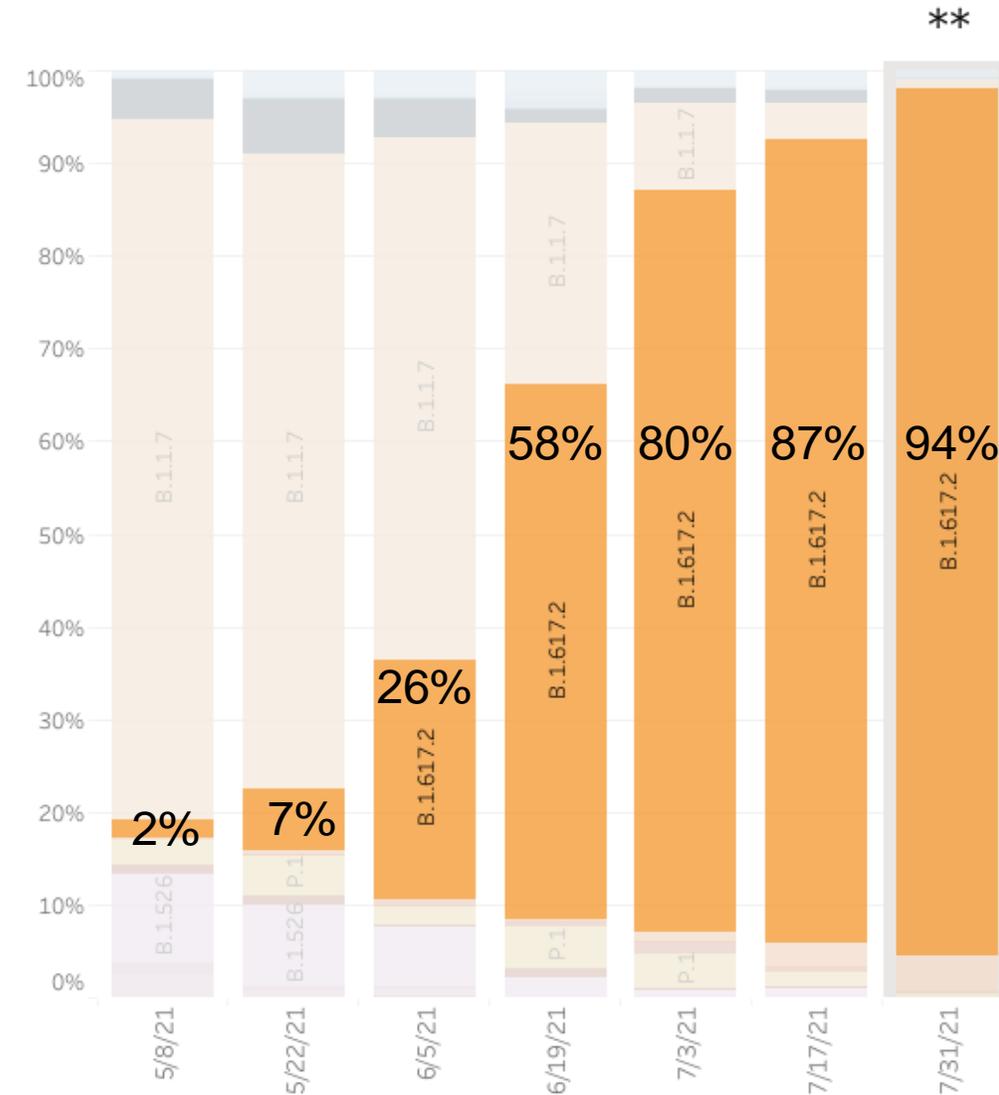
- Viruses constantly change through mutation and slightly different forms of a virus are called variants
- Delta is a variant that is approximately twice as infectious person to person compared to the original virus
 - R-naught value: Average number of persons infected from a single case in a naïve population
 - Delta variant: ~5 to 7
 - Original strain: ~3
 - Highest spread happening in communities with low vaccination rates
- Best way to stop the spread of Delta in communities is to get vaccinated against COVID-19



Impact of the Delta variant

- Delta variant has rapidly become the predominant virus
- Increase in cases from June 15 to August 10
 - +757% in US: 13,232 cases/day to 113,357
 - +646% in SD: 13 cases/day to 97
- Increasing number of breakthrough cases
 - Vast majority of breakthrough cases avoid hospitalization and death

HHS Region 8: 4/25/2021 – 7/31/2021



Recommendations

- Implement layered prevention strategies based on local considerations, **level of community spread**, and COVID-19 vaccination coverage
- Monitor COVID-19 cases in your school or district and have a plan for responding to increasing number of cases
- CDC recommendations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>
 - Promote vaccination
 - Universal indoor masking by all students, staff, teachers, and visitors regardless of vaccination status
 - Maintain 3 or more feet of physical distance between students
 - Other layers:
 - Screening testing
 - Ventilation
 - Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
 - Staying home when sick and getting tested
 - Contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation
 - Cleaning and disinfection



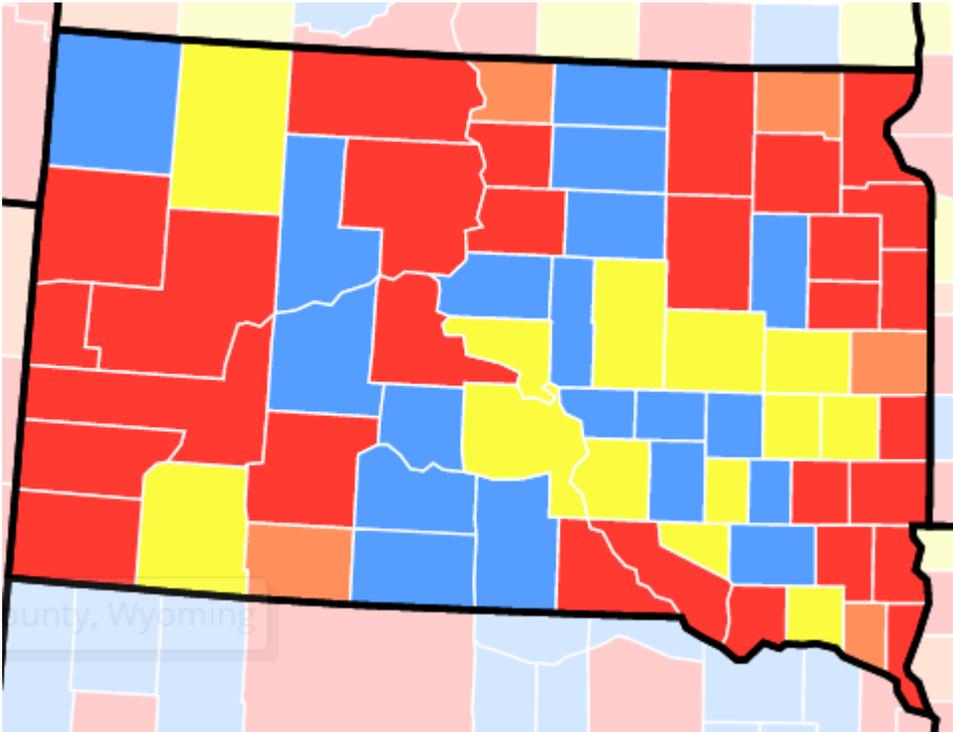
Level of Community Spread

- SD-DOH updated levels of community spread to match CDC

Indicator - If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days	0-9.99	10-49.99	50-99.99	≥100
Percentage of NAATs ¹ that are positive during the past 7 days	0-4.99%	5-7.99%	8-9.99%	≥10.0%

- Ways to monitor community spread:
 - CDC: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>
 - SD-DOH: <https://doh.sd.gov/COVID/Dashboard.aspx>
- SD-DOH updated weekly on Monday

CDC COVID Tracker



SD-DOH COVID-19 Dashboard

